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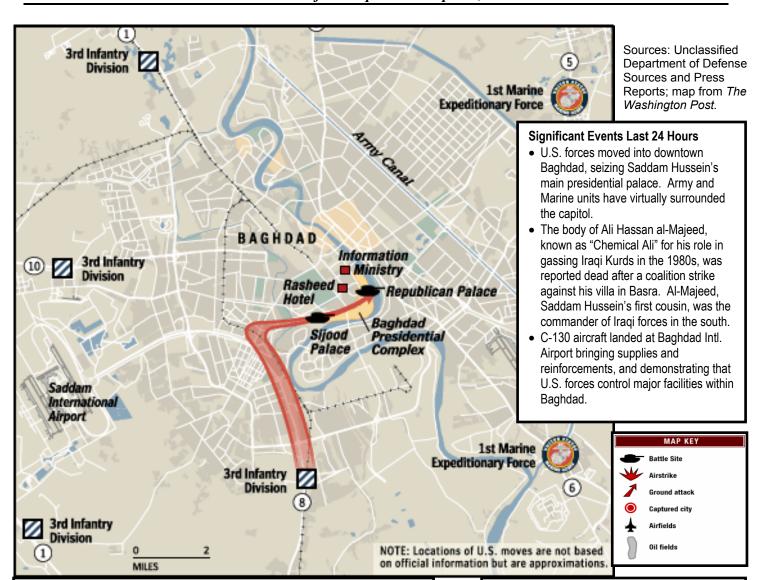


House Armed Services Committee



DAILY SUMMARY – OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Current as of 12:00 p.m. EST April 7, 2003



Coalition Forces Update

- Elements of the 3rd Infantry Division hold the Baghdad International Airport and are operating south and west of the city. Units have occupied the main presidential palace in downtown Baghdad.
- The 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade are operating south and east of Baghdad, and are attacking northwest to cut off escape routes north of the city.
- The 101st Airborne continues to secure supply lines in the vicinity of Karbala. A brigade of the 82nd Airborne Division is also protecting supply routes near Najaf.
- The 173rd Airborne Brigade in northern Iraq staged an artillery raid on Iraqi positions east of Mosul.
- British forces have moved into the heart of Basra, taking control of most of the city.
- The U.S. began airlifting Free Iraqi Forces, led by exile leader Ahmed Chalbai, into Nasiriyah.

Iraqi Forces Update

- Republican Guard forces charged with defending Baghdad have largely ceased to exist as coherent units. Company sized units comprised of 20-40 vehicles still offer resistance in and around the capitol and the airport
- Reports indicate that a mix of Republican Guard, Special Republican Guard, the paramilitary Fedayeen Saddam and non-Iraqi Arabs are offering scattered resistance inside Bachdad.
- Elements of the regular Iraqi Army have taken up defensive positions around the cities of Mosul and Kirkuk in the north.